Submission to Kelkar Committee

1447. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee met professional bodies and consumer associations before finalising its supplementary report, if so, when did such meetings take place;

(b) whether these bodies submitted any representations in writing to the Committee; and

(c) if so, whether they were taken into account before finalisation of the report of the Committee and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The details of meetings held by the Kelkar Committee are not readily available. The Committee had taken into consideration various representations received by it.

Omission of drugs required for National Health Programmes

1448. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry or Kelkar Committee or Government received representations in regard to omissions of drugs required for National Health Programmes;

(b) whether his Ministry has taken any decision on these representations; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) After taking into consideration, the various representations received by the Kelkar Committee as well as these referred to it by the Government, the Committee had *inter alia* recommended the omission of the drug Oral Rehyderation Salt (DRS) from the list of Schedule-I drugs. Accordingly this drug has been omitted from Schedule-I of the DPCO, 1987 as per Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 1989 notified on 18-1-1989.

Categorisation of Rifampicin

1449. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee has recommended the shifting of Refampicin to Category-II for a period of three years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Notification issued for shifting does not refer to this period;

(c) whether it is a fact that all the formulators of Rifampicin are going to set up basic production; and

(d) if not, the reasons for extending the benefit to all?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) While recommending for shifting of Rifampicin from the First Schedule to the Second Schedule of DPCO 1987 the Kelkar Committee in its Supplementary Report has suggested that in the event of the failure of the Indian manufacturers to achieve the target of indigenous production of Rifampicin from basic stage (inclusive of fermentation) Rifampicin could be brought back to the First Schedule. Pursuant to the above recommendation Government has shifted Rifampicin from the First Schedule to the Second Schedule. The position will be reviewed periodically.

Price control on Piroxicam

1450. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the turn over of Piroxicam was less than rupees fifty lakh during 1986 and it had a negative growth for several companies;